

# Technology Transfer

The advancement and application of new technologies in government and commercial products and services have always been important to the well-being of the United States. Since its inception in 1958, NASA has been an important source of much of the nation's new technology.



NASA technology that provides real-time measurement of photochemical efficiency in phytoplankton and higher plants was developed for commercial application, in part, through the NASA Small Business Innovation Research Program at Stennis.

The Office of Technology Transfer at Stennis works to identify technology development opportunities and make these available to domestic companies as commercial products. It does so by making technologies available through public licenses and partnerships, providing technical advice and acting as a clearinghouse for technology needs.

NASA's Commercial Technology Program provides a variety of opportunities for the American public to work with NASA in the transfer of technology, including:

- **Licensing Opportunities** — NASA makes the manufacturing rights on more than 1,000 patents and patent applications available to industry through its Patent Licensing Program.
- **Dual-Use Projects** — NASA seeks commercial partners to share in the risks and costs of co-developing a technology into useful government and/or commercial products.
- **Small Business Innovation Research and Small Business Technology Transfer (SBIR/STTR) Programs** — The SBIR/STTR programs were designed to provide funding for U.S. small business concerns.
- **Technology Assistance** — NASA provides assistance with technical questions or problems to U.S. companies in areas unique to NASA's mission focus.



Commercial developers work with NASA scientists to create new products.